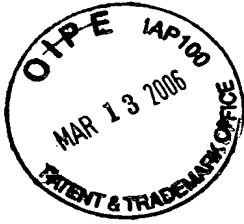


ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
064731.0346
(P-278US-1)

PATENT APPLICATION
USSN 10/609,332

1



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Steinhorst, et al.
Serial No: 10/609,332
Date Filed: June 26, 2003
Confirmation No. 7931
Group Art Unit: 2874
Title: *Method and System for Upgrading a Fiber Optics Network*

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Linda Henretta", written over a horizontal line.

Linda Henretta

3/8/2006
Date of Signature

Dear Sir:

REQUEST FOR STATUS

Please advise the status of the above-identified patent application. The Filing Receipt was mailed November 21, 2003 by the United States Patent and Trademark Office. Applicants are currently requesting the status of the first Office Action and status of this case.

Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.702(a)(1), it has been over fourteen months since the filing date of this Application and a Notification under 35 U.S.C. § 132 has not been received. Thus, a period

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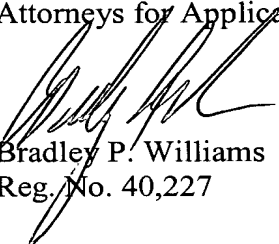
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of adjustment of patent term due to examination delay is accruing in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.703(a)(1).

If there are any matters that can be cleared up through a telephone conversation, please contact the undersigned attorney for Applicants at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BAKER BOTTS L.L.P.
Attorneys for Applicants


Bradley P. Williams
Reg. No. 40,227

Date: 3/8/06

Correspondence Address:

Customer PTO ID No: **05073**